

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original): A hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode obtained by adhering an electrode material consisting of hydrogen absorbing alloy powder and a binding agent composed of a polymeric material to a current collector, wherein

an aqueous polymeric material except fluorocarbon resin is applied thereon, to form a coating layer, and a polymeric material in said coating layer is different from the polymeric material in the binding agent.

2. (Currently amended): The hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode according to claim 1, wherein

the polymeric material in said coating layer is a copolymer comprising at least two types of elements selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid ester, methacrylic acid ester, aromatic olefin, conjugated diene and olefin.

3. (Currently amended): The hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode according to claim 1, wherein

the polymeric material in said coating layer is at least one type of elements element selected from the group consisting of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer, ethylene-acrylic acid ester copolymer, methacrylic acid methyl-butadiene copolymer, styrene-butadiene copolymer and butadiene polymer.

4. (Original): The hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode according to claim 1, wherein the weight of said coating layer is in the range of 0.1 to 5 % by weight of the total weight of said coating layer, hydrogen absorbing alloy power and the binding agent.

5. (Original): The hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode according to claim 1, wherein the weight of said coating layer is in the range of 0.2 to 2 % by weight of the total weight of said coating layer, hydrogen absorbing alloy power and the binding agent.

6. (Canceled):

7. (Canceled):

8. (Canceled):

9. (Original): An alkaline storage battery, wherein the hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode according to claim 1 is employed as its negative electrode.